



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

**FULBRIGHT PROGRAM FOR
GRADUATE STUDIES IN AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES
ACADEMIC YEAR 2008-2009**

(JUNIOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM)

GUIDELINES

I ELIGIBILITY

Applications are welcomed from junior-level Mauritian academics qualified to study towards a Master's or Ph.D. degree; however, preference is given to candidates applying for Master's degrees. All candidates selected for degree study will be funded for a maximum of two years. Normally a Bachelor (Hons.) or an equivalent three or four-year university degree is required to qualify for graduate studies in the United States. Applications will be considered also from students registered for doctoral degrees in Mauritius who wish to pursue one year of graduate study for non-degree purposes.

Applications in medicine, dentistry, theology and veterinary science are not considered because of difficulty in obtaining admissions for foreign students in these fields of study. Post-doctoral research is also not allowed under this program.

Applicants must be Mauritian citizens, of good health and preferably 35 years of age or under, and proficient in English. Applicants must be available in July 2007 for a personal interview in Mauritius if they reach the preliminary level of the competition.

Applicants must comply with U.S. laws and regulations governing immigration and naturalization. It is expected that all finalists will return to Mauritius on completion of their studies.

II Applications may be submitted until June 27, 2007. Application forms can be obtained from:

**THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION (JSDP)
Embassy of the United States of America
4th Floor, Rogers House
John Kennedy Street
Port Louis**

or downloaded from the U.S. embassy's website at: <http://mauritius.usembassy.gov>.

Application forms must be completed in full; they **MUST** be either typed or

computer-generated; incomplete and/or illegible applications will not be considered. All applications are carefully reviewed by the Selection Committee which invites the most qualified applicants for personal interviews.

Candidates are advised to apply early and to ensure that **ALL** necessary documentation is received in a timely fashion. This includes all transcripts or university studies showing symbols received, certified copies of all degree certificates, and the names of four referees. At least three referees should be from academics who can attest to the quality of the candidate's university study and academic potential. If degrees and transcripts are not in English, translations must be attached.

Applicants should also have investigated the programs offered in their fields by American universities and have clearly in mind the type of study program desired. An Educational Advisor is available at the Embassy on Thursday mornings **by appointment** to assist applicants with their research.

The Selection Committee conducting the interviews will include American Embassy officials and prominent Mauritian educators familiar with both the Mauritian and American educational systems.

Finalists will be asked to fill in an online final application form which is forwarded to a private, non-profit organization in New York, the Institute of International Education (IIE), for submission to universities for admission. The IIE will place candidates at American graduate institutions offering programs that meet the students' objectives; availability of tuition scholarships will be a factor in the final choice of schools. American universities usually announce the results of the selections between March and April for the academic year beginning in August or September. Some last-minute decisions are made in May or even June.

The number of awards depends upon availability of funds, the qualifications of the applicants and successful academic placement; however, we expect to award one to two scholarships this year.

In addition to scholastic achievement, principal factors taken into consideration in making the awards include the potential benefits of the applicants' studies to Mauritian society at large, the availability of the applicant's fields of study at Mauritian tertiary institutions, and ability of the applicants to contribute to better understanding between the people of the United States and Mauritius.

III GENERAL INFORMATION

Successful applicants should expect to leave Mauritius in August 2008. In some cases a U.S. orientation program is arranged in July before studies begin in August or September.

Master's degree programs in the United States require one to two years of study, depending upon the regulations of the individual university and the field of study. All bursary awards, whether they are full or partial Fulbright Fellowships or university

scholarships, are made on a yearly basis. The continuation of a student in a program and the renewal of the bursary depend upon the student's academic performance.

IV DEPENDENTS

Fulbright bursaries do not provide for dependents who might accompany the student. In order to obtain visas, a student planning to bring dependents to the United States must prove to an American Consular official that he or she is able to cover all expenses for the period of study for any accompanying dependents.

V REQUIRED STANDARD EXAMINATIONS

All foreign students are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) to confirm English fluency. Fulbright finalists will be required to take the TOEFL examination even though they may regard English as their mother tongue.

A second examination which is expected of the Fulbright finalists is the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). This is a general ability test which indicates a candidate's aptitude for graduate level study. Most American universities will not consider a candidate for admission if he/she has not taken the GRE. Management students are usually required to take the GMAT (Graduate Management Admissions Test) in lieu of the GRE.

These three examinations are given in Mauritius, but it is important for the Fulbright finalists to take the TOEFL and either the GRE or the GMAT tests in October/November. This ensures that the examination results will be available to the universities when they make their admissions decisions. All finalists will be provided with brochures, application forms and fee waiver vouchers to register to take these tests. However, each candidate is responsible for travel expenses to and from the testing venues.

The Educational Testing Service, which administers the TOEFL, GRE and GMAT examinations, informs candidates of their examination venues. The examinations are not administered by the American Embassy.

Any questions concerning the Fulbright competition should be directed to the U.S. Embassy.

The deadline for submitting applications for this year's competition is June 27, 2007.